

Lizards Review Questions

1. Name three ways to differentiate Helodermatidae from Varanidae.
2. What one characteristic is generally sufficient to identify Corytophanidae?
3. Which families of lizard have legless lizards? Which are represented in our collection?
4. Which two unrelated lizard families have the feature of a prominent lateral fold along the side of their body?
5. When Teiids are compared to the Old World Lacertids, name three morphological examples of convergent evolution in the two families.
6. Which North American lizard has females that can produce a fertile egg without the benefit of a male sperm?
7. What two lizard families have acrodont teeth?
8. What families (10) are in the clade Iguania?
9. Which of these families live in Australia?
Agamidae, Chamaeleonidae, Varanidae, Gekkonidae, Scincidae, Hoplocercidae
10. Which of these families are known to live in the desert?
Crotaphytidae, Teiidae, Scincidae, Phrynosomatidae, Iguanidae, Gekkonidae
11. What does it mean to be parthenogenic? Give an example of a lizard family with this characteristic.
12. What tooth type is common to all Iguanid lizards?
13. What is function of the dewlap?
14. What lizard families (at least 5) display viviparity?

15. Besides their mutually exclusive distributions, name a physical character that can be used to distinguish Lacertidae from Teiidae as a result of their internal skull structure.

16. Sort these families between Iguania and Scleroglossa

Gekkonidae	Opluridae
Teiidae	Phrynosomatidae
Tropiduridae	Crotaphytidae
Iguanidae	Serpentes (likely)
Corytophanidae	Polychrotidae
Helodermatidae	Varanidae
Scincidae	Anguinae

17. Name at least one possible defensive behavior of the following families or genera when they are disturbed or otherwise feel threatened:

Agamidae: _____

Phrynosoma: _____

Corytophanidae: _____

18. Name at least two families that contain species of lizards that are strict ant specialists.

19. How can you tell a member of the families Gekkonidae and Xantusiidae apart?

20. What subfamily in Gekkonidae is characterized by their usage of acoustic signals for communication?

21. What is a function of the ability for chameleons to change colors, aside from hiding from predators?

22. What is the only genus of Tuatara?

23. A member of what family of lizard recently killed a fruit picker in Eastern Indonesia?

24. From the following lizard families (Not all will be used):

Lanthanotidae	Varanidae
Iguania	Opluridae
Iguanidae	Crotaphytidae
Lanthanotidae	Agamidae
Chamaeleonidae	Gekkonidae
Cordylidae	Gerrhosauridae
Lacertidae	Scincidae
Anguinae	Corytophanidae

Which are found in Fiji?

Which are endemic to Madagascar?

Which are found in Africa?

Which are endemic to Borneo?

Which are found in Crete?

25. Define the following terms:

- Heterodont
- Oviparous
- Zygodactylus feet-

26. Name all of the families of lizards that can be found in Madagascar. Of these, which are endemic to Madagascar?